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rabbits by means of syphilitic material are the result of multiplication of the *pallida* and not of some associated, indefinite parasite.

CELL INCLUSIONS OF NON-INFECTIOUS ORIGIN

Wolbach (Jour. Med. Research, April, 1911) describes a new type of cell-inclusions, which seem not to have an infectious origin, and are associated with lesions of a granulomatous character. The lesions consist at first of epithelioid cells and giant cells. Later connective tissue proliferation takes place, and produces a fibrous tissue-mass surrounding the giant cells. Complete cicatrization usually occurs. There is no extensive necrosis nor caseation. The lesions have been found in lymph nodes, spleen, liver and lung. The inclusions are neither artifacts nor parasites. They are found most often in the giant cells, but are also found within the endothelial leucocytes; rarely free in the lymph spaces. The typical inclusion consists of a central mass, round or oval in section, surrounded by a series of radiating straight or curved spinous projection. The central mass stains differently from the spines,—except for a smaller central body within. The author suggests that they are fibrin derivatives formed *intra vitam* within the cells by a process analogous to crystallization. No trace of tuberculosis was found in any of the cases which develop these inclusions.

TRACHOMA BODIES

Wolbach and McKee (Jour. Med. Research, April, 1911) conclude that trachoma bodies are not specific of trachoma, and are not parasitic in nature; but are merely the products of mucous secretion under pathological condition. In support of this:—

1. They are found only where the mucous secretion is most disturbed (tho this might quite as well be effect as cause).
2. Granules, apparently identical with the "red" granules of trachoma, are found in disturbed mucous secretion elsewhere.
3. The "plastin" material of trachoma is similar in reaction and arrangement to certain forms of mucous secretion.

INFLUENCE OF NERVE EXTIRPATION ON DEVELOPMENT OF MUSCLES

Davenport Hooker (Jour. Exp. Zool., Aug., 1911) presents a study of the effect of the removal of the nervous system on the development and function of muscles in frog embryos. The following results may be noted:—

1. All muscles develop normally, but less rapidly in the nerveless embryos than in the normal.

2. In normal embryos the nervous connection with muscles precedes slightly the development of contractility in the muscles.

3. All muscles,—cardiac, axial, and appendicular,—differentiate independently of nervous connection.

4. Embryonic cardiac muscles will contract spontaneously and rhythmically without nervous control; axial muscles will not contract spontaneously but will respond to direct mechanical stimulation; appendicular muscles are dependent on the nervous system for stimulation until late in development.

CULTIVATION OF TISSUES IN ALIEN SERA

Lambert and Hanes (Jour. Exp. Med., Aug., 1911), following up many unsuccessful efforts to secure growth of animal tissues in species different from that from which they were derived, have reported undertaking to grow such tissues outside the body in plasma from alien species. They found that rat sarcoma may be cultivated in mouse and guinea pig plasma for 30 days or more; in rabbit plasma, more slowly for 12 days; in dog plasma, not at all; in human plasma (the fibrin was liquified), the cells outwandered and formed giant cells after 4 to 6 days. Mouse sarcoma and tissues of rat spleen were used with much the same results. Transplantation back to homologous serum was the test of the retention of reproductive vitality.

SELECTIVE MATING IN PARAMECIA

In an elaborate paper (Jour. Exp. Zool., July, 1911) Prof. H. S. Jennings gives the results of experiments in assortative mating among Paramecia, and its products. It is impossible to do justice in a brief abstract to the luminous presentation in this paper, but the main results (parts of which corroborate the work of Pearl and others) may be summarized as follows:—

1. In cultures consisting of progeny of one individual or of a mixture of races, it is the rule that the members of conjugating pairs